

26. (new) The method of claim 24 wherein the soluble human flt-3 ligand comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of amino acids 28 to Xaa of SEQ ID NO:2 and amino acids 28 to Yaa of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein Xaa is an amino acid from 163 to 231, and Yaa is an amino acid from 160 to 235.

27. (new) The method of claim 26, wherein the soluble human flt-3 ligand has the amino acid sequence of residues 28-163 of SEQ ID NO:2.

28. (new) The method of claim 26, wherein the soluble human flt-3 ligand has the amino acid sequence of residues 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:2.

29. (new) The method of claim 26, wherein the soluble human flt-3 ligand has the amino acid sequence of residues 28-188 of SEQ ID NO:2.

30. (new) The method of claim 26, wherein the soluble human flt-3 ligand has the amino acid sequence of residues 28-182 of SEQ ID NO:2.

31. (new) The method of claim 20 wherein the flt-3 ligand is soluble human flt-3 ligand.

32. (new) The method of claim 31 wherein the flt-3 ligand is soluble human flt-3 ligand.

33. (new) The method of claim 32 wherein the soluble human flt-3 ligand is recombinant flt-3 ligand.

34. (new) The method of claim 33 wherein the soluble human flt-3 ligand has an amino acid sequence that is encoded by a polynucleotide sequence that hybridizes under moderately stringent conditions to, and is at least 80% identical to, a nucleic acid that encodes an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of amino acids 28 to Xaa of SEQ ID NO:2 and amino acids 28 to Yaa of SEQ ID

NO:1, wherein Xaa is an amino acid from 163 to 231, and Yaa is an amino acid from 160 to 235.

35. (new) The method of claim 33 wherein the soluble human flt-3 ligand comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of amino acids 28 to Xaa of SEQ ID NO:2 and amino acids 28 to Yaa of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein Xaa is an amino acid from 163 to 231, and Yaa is an amino acid from 160 to 235.

C 36. (new) The method of claim 35, wherein the soluble human flt-3 ligand has the amino acid sequence of residues 28-163 of SEQ ID NO:2.

C 37. (new) The method of claim 35, wherein the soluble human flt-3 ligand has the amino acid sequence of residues 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:2.

B CC 38. (new) The method of claim 35, wherein the soluble human flt-3 ligand has the amino acid sequence of residues 28-188 of SEQ ID NO:2.

C 39. (new) The method of claim 35, wherein the soluble human flt-3 ligand has the amino acid sequence of residues 28-182 of SEQ ID NO:2.

40. (new) The method of claim 6 wherein the cancerous disease is a tumor.

41. (new) The method of claim 20 wherein the cancerous disease is a tumor.

42. (new) The method of claim 40 wherein the tumor is a fibrosarcoma.

43. (new) The method of claim 41 wherein the tumor is a fibrosarcoma.